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GERMANS CONTINUE SURPRISE ADVANCE ALONG SAAR FRONT

Break Through Maginot Line Despite Pressure of 6 American and French Divisions

Domei

BERLIN, January 5.—German troops continuing their surprise thrusts along the entire front between the Saar and Upper Rhine have broken through the Maginot Line on a 40-kilometer front and, despite counter-pressure by roughly six American and French divisions, overran the American positions in three days of the heaviest fighting seen on the Western Front, Rundstedt's headquarters announced today.

French formations were rushed up to prevent the thin lines of the American 7th army from tearing asunder, but the irresistible German columns pounded out further gains south and southeast of Bitsch and at Weissenburg, and took back in three days what Patch's men required over one month to take.

Latest reports said that the Germans recaptured more than 100 localities between Saareguemines and Bitsch during the past 24 hours and in three days had completely cleared American troops from the old Reich area between the Saar and upper Rhine. On the whole sector of the front enemy troops have been pushed back a few kilometers south of the Lauter River and Weissenburg and the furthest German penetration was reported to be 20 kilometers south of the old Reich border.

The American 7th army, it is reported, has been pierced at several points and isolated groups are facing annihilation. De Gaullist divisions have been withdrawn from the Alsace front to aid the 7th army and together they tried again and again to put brakes on the German advance. Despite reinforced counter-pressure, German troops gained several kilometers towards the south in the area south and southeast of Bitsch as well as around Weissenburg.

German quarters said that the last three days of fighting in the new German offensive sector has been the heaviest seen in this war. The Germans attacked pillboxes and underground fortifications occupied by the Americans and blasted them out with special modern sapper weapons, again proving their superiority in pillbox fighting.

Heavily mauled troops of Patch's army could not release more troops to continue the American attacks in the Bastogne area and pressure against the southern flank of the German salient showed slackening yesterday. General Patton threw his troops against the German lines between St. Hubert and Bastogne, but again his efforts were frustrated and few penetrations were unproportionately costly. During the past 24 hours, more than 70 American tanks and armored cars were destroyed and the Germans reconquered several localities northeast of Bastogne.

Meanwhile, fighting on the northern flank of the German penetration rose to utmost violence with the Americans throwing in the bulk of their tank divisions, but the Germans in the first 24 hours of the new American attack achieved a complete defensive success.

The focal point of the big tank battles was situated between Grandmenil and Hotton where the American 1st army reinforced by Montgomery's tank forces attacked relentlessly by day and night. Few penetrations were made, but it is safely assumed that the enemy's double breakthrough attempt converging towards Houffalize and thereby cutting off the German bulge has failed.

Full-Fledged Offensive

Domei

LISBON, January 5.—German attacks along the Saar valley have assumed a scale of full-fledged offensive which is fully engaging the American armies there and threatening a possible breakthrough into the Alsace-Lorraine plains, it was reported by a Reuters correspondent with the SHAEF in a dispatch reaching here. The German attacks are seriously impairing the security of the anti-Axis positions on the northern sector of the Western Front, the correspondent added.

The German attack east of Bitsch in the Saar sector has dented another deep hole in the anti-Axis positions and swept them through the Maginot Line, placing them in a position to stream westward into the Lorraine Plain or southward into Alsace through the Wissenburg gap unless the anti-Axis takes countermeasures, the correspondent said.

The German morale is known to be high at the present owing to Field Marshal Gert von Rundstedt's success in the Ardennes and should Strasburg fall it will be another big source of encouragement, the correspondent admitted. He added that the eastern end of the anti-Axis positions in Alsace near the German frontier already had been drawn back several miles to the north of Hagenau forest and sharp German penetration southeast of Bitsch now threatens the main road between Saareguemines and Hagenau—eastern keypoint in north Alsace. If this road is reached, the dispatch said, the Germans would be only 12 miles from the western end of Saverne gap—the break in the hills linking Metz-Nancy area with Strasburg.

Anti-Axis Bewildered As Germans Advance 15 Miles Into France

Domei

LISBON, January 5.—The news lag in anti-Axis reports today confirmed the seriousness of the German attacks in northeastern France and an AP frontline dispatch today said that the German offensive has grown to serious proportions. It admitted that the jabbing attacks which the Germans have been throwing against the American 7th army lines in northeastern France now have developed definitely into another powerful German offensive. A terse statement from Supreme Allied Headquarters acknowledged that the German drive carried nearly 15 miles into France and reached points only 12 miles from the Saverne gap near Strasburg.

FURIOUS BATTLE RAGING ON BUDAPEST OUTSKIRTS

German Land and Air Attacks Foil Soviet Attempt to Widen Penetration

Domei

BERLIN, January 5.—The battle for Budapest continued with undiminished violence during the past 24 hours and fierce fighting is still raging on the eastern fringes of the capital. After hard fighting all Soviet attempts to enlarge their penetration were frustrated with German battleplane and fighter formations again effectively supporting ground operations. Reports said that 26 Soviet planes were brought down in aerial combat and four others destroyed on the ground.

Meanwhile, the silence maintained by German quarters concerning the counterattack by the Reich troops in the area west of Budapest was broken today. Only reports of the fighting in Budapest and in the Hungarian-Slovakia frontier area were released hitherto but it was announced today that strong German formations in the area northeast of Felsoegalla had inflicted severe blows on the Soviets for some days and the Soviet breakthrough attempt to Komorn was frustrated. The announcement said that in counterattacks, the Germans overpowered Soviet artillery positions in the area and moved up the German lines further toward the east.

In the fighting which is still in progress, German infantry attacks are being supported by tanks and strong air units. The counterattacks took the Red troops completely by surprise and reserves were hastily rushed up but these were mostly annihilated through German air attacks even before they reached the front. Soviet losses were high in the fighting that flared up between Lake Balaton and the southern bank of the Danube. Soviet attacks west of Stuhlweissenburg were warded off.

Red Army troops were repelled in the fighting in the southern Slovakia border area between Gran and Gross-Sieffeladorf. A German tank counterattack against a Soviet penetration cut off the advance groups of the Red army and annihilated them after a hard battle.

On the northern end of the Eastern Front, several Soviet local attacks carried out south of Frauenburg in Courland were frustrated.

Reich Counter-Drive Pushed

Domei

LISBON, January 5.—Confirming the Berlin report, an UP dispatch from Moscow said that the Germans, going all out to rescue their trapped Budapest garrison, hurled wave upon wave of armored and infantry units against the Soviet defenses some 30 miles northwest of the capital in the first big counteroffensive on the Eastern Front in the new year.

It said that the German onslaught after gaining as much as six miles along the south bank of the Danube Tuesday and Wednesday, broke against Soviet resistance yesterday.

A Reuters dispatch from Moscow said that the belt of the Hungarian countryside between the German garrison in Budapest and the German rescue forces which was 35 miles wide when the Germans launched their relief drive is now in a state of full emergency. It said that units of six tank and several infantry divisions are included in the German army which is counterattacking the Soviets to get through to the capital.

The dispatch pointed out that the Red Army is under no illusions as to the importance of the battle.

It added that the battle northwest of Budapest is raging throughout the day and night while inside Budapest the Germans are hitting out in the western sectors trying to find weak spots in the Soviet ring. In Pest the Germans have turned the stations of the underground railway into strongpoints and battles are now going on in the tunnels.

70-80 B-29 BOMBERS LAUNCH BLIND RAID ON WESTERN KYUSHU

Damage Slight, Says Imperial Headquarters—Results Being Investigated

Between 70 and 80 China-based B-29 bombers carried out a high altitude blind-bombing attack on the western part of Kyushu on the morning of January 6, it was announced by the Imperial Headquarters at 4:40 p.m. on Saturday.

Damage caused to the Japanese side was negligible and war results are now being investigated, the communique stated.

The communique follows:

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
4:40 p.m. January 6

"Coming from China, 70 to 80 B-29 bombers attacked the western part of Kyushu on the morning of January 6 and carried out blind bombing from a high altitude.

"Damage on our side was very slight.

"As to the war results obtained in the counterattacking operation, investigations are now being made."

Experience Bad Weather

The China-based U.S. air force with 70 to 80 B-29 bombers attacked various parts in western Kyushu at 10 a.m. on January 6 when the raiders staged a blind bombing attack from a high altitude.

Hampered by bad weather, particularly with snow and thick clouds, Japanese Anti-Air Raid Units had difficulty in counterattacking the raiders. Taking advantage of the adverse weather conditions, the enemy from the beginning to the end directed indiscriminate blind bombings. Some of the raiders were unable to penetrate the skies over western Kyushu due to the bad weather. Slight damage was caused but no important establishments were harmed.

War results obtained by the Japanese as stated by the Imperial Headquarters are now under investigation.

ROOSEVELT TO BROADCAST

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 5.—President Roosevelt will take to the air tomorrow night to summarize to the nation his state of the Union message to be delivered to Congress earlier in the day, according to a Washington dispatch.

Roosevelt told his news conference today that the message will deal with the nation's foreign policy and the manpower question among other things and said it will be about 8,000 words long.

Meanwhile, the President continued to work today in Washington on his annual message to Congress on the state of the Union and his message to the legislative body on the budget for the next fiscal year. The message on the state of the Union will be delivered Saturday and the budget message is expected to go to Congress next Tuesday or Wednesday.

Meanwhile, Congressional legislative actions will largely be held in advance pending the President's message. In the meantime, the House voted continuance of the Committee to Investigate Un-American Activities, formerly known as the Dies Committee. Representative Martin Dies, of Texas the head of the group, is no longer a member of the House.

Fighter Unit and Four Wild Eagles Cited for Intercepting Operations

Three of Honored Aces Launched Ramming Attack Against Enemy Aircraft Over Kitachishima And Vicinity of Tokyo

The granting of citations to the Abe Fighter Plane Unit and four Army Wild Eagles including Special Sergeant Major Sadamitsu Kimura who rendered distinguished military services in the intercepting operations against enemy planes attacking the Japanese mainland, has now been brought to the August knowledge of His Majesty the Emperor, it was announced by the War Ministry on Saturday.

The communique follows:

"Those who rendered military services in the counterattacking battles with enemy planes which raided the Japanese mainland and whose citations have been brought to the August knowledge of His Majesty the Emperor follow:

Northern Kyushu on night of June 15, 1944
The Abe Fighter Plane Unit
Northern Kyushu on night of June 15, 1944
Special Sergeant Major
Sadamitsu Kimura
Kitachishima on November 7, 1944 (Launched ramming attack)
Sergeant Iwao Narukiyo
In the vicinity of Tokyo on November 24, 1944 (Launched ramming attack)
Corporal Yoshio Miruta
In the vicinity of Tokyo on December 3, 1944 (Launched ramming attack)
Sergeant Masami Sawamoto

Sergeant Masami Sawamoto has been posthumously promoted to the rank of Sub-Lieutenant the War Ministry announced on Saturday.

The late Sub-Lieutenant Sawamoto was specially awarded the 4th Class Order of the Golden Kite and the 6th Class Order of the Single-Rayed Rising Sun, it was announced by the Bureau of Decorations and the War Ministry on the same day.

The Abe Fighter Unit distinguished itself in counterattacking a formation of China-based U.S. planes belonging to the 20th Bomber Command which attacked Northern Kyushu on the night of June 15 last year by blasting more than 10 B-29 bombers. For this brilliant achievement a citation was issued by Lieutenant General Sadamu Shimomura, the Commander of the Western Army.

Special Sergeant Major Sadamitsu Kimura, a member of the Abe Unit was individually cited by the Commander of the Western Army for shooting down or damaging four bombers in a battle with planes of the U.S. 20th Bomber Command over Northern Kyushu on June 15 last year.

Sergeant Iwao Narukiyo distinguished himself in an aerial combat with four B-25 bombers which raided Horomushiro Strait near Kitachishima on November 7 last year when he downed one of the raiders by ramming action thereby meeting a glorious end. He was granted a citation by Lieutenant General Iichiro Higuchi, the Commander of the Northern Army.

Corporal Yoshio Miruta rammed and downed one B-29 bomber during an engagement with a formation of seven Mariana-based planes over Choshi on November 24 last year and met a glorious death. In recognition of his bravery, a citation was issued by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defense Headquarters.

As a member of the Shinten Special Attack Air Unit, Sergeant Masami Sawamoto, who was cited by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defense Headquarters, launched a ramming attack against a Mariana-based B-29 bomber when seven of them raided Tokyo on December 3 last year. In destroying this B-29, Sergeant Sawamoto met a glorious end.

MONTGOMERY COMMANDS U.S. 1ST AND 9TH ARMIES

Britisher Takes Charge of Troops North of Reich Salient in Belgium

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 5.—Field Marshal Sir Bernard Montgomery, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Anti-Axis Forces in Europe, has been commanding the anti-Axis troops including the U.S. 1st and 9th Armies north of the German salient in Belgium while Lieutenant General Omar Bradley, Commander of the U.S. 12th Army Group, has been given command of the forces only in the southern flank in the Ardennes sector, the U.S. War Department announced today, according to a Washington dispatch.

The statement said that the permanence of the new arrangement will be up to General Dwight Eisenhower's discretion and explained that the shift in the command from Bradley was necessary because the 9th Army and most of the 1st have been cut off from the 12th Army Group Headquarters by the sudden German breakthrough.

Montgomery was previously in charge of only the Canadian 1st and British 2nd Armies. Bradley is still Commander of the 12th Army Group which at present embraces the 3rd Army, those parts of the 1st army cut off to the south by the German breakthrough and some special units such as the 101st air-borne divisions. The sudden shift has not affected the immediate commands of the U.S. 1st and 9th Armies under Lieutenant General Courtney Hodge and Lieutenant General William Simpson respectively.

In this connection, President Roosevelt told reporters today that the shift in SHAEF command was made necessary when the German offensive created two fronts instead of one and described the action a field operation decided on by General Eisenhower.

American Losses Costly

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 5.—Colonel Henry Stimson, U.S. Secretary of War, admitted today at the press conference that the German offensive is costly to both the Germans and the Americans but he refused to release the American casualty list in the campaign, according to a Washington dispatch. Press reports described American losses as exceptionally heavy. Stimson also warned that the enemy is still holding power to launch new action on other fronts than Belgium.

ROOSEVELT WELCOMES STEP TAKEN BY TURKEY

Wilhelmstrasse Spokesman Ridicules Undignified Position Of Turkish Nation

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 5.—President Roosevelt welcomed the action of Turkey in breaking off diplomatic relations with Japan, according to a Washington dispatch. It is now revealed that the decision to do so was taken by Turkey without consultation with the United States Government.

In a statement issued in Washington on Thursday, the President said, "Turkey's decision to sever relations with Japan is clear evidence of Turkey's desire for the rapid and complete victory of the anti-Axis Powers."

This action means the closing of the Japanese diplomatic establishments in Turkey. Since German establishments were closed by the Turkish Government, this was the last foothold of the Axis on Turkish soil. This step taken by Turkey will be followed by declaration of war, depending on the decision of Hassan Saka, Turkish Foreign Minister, on the attitude of Japan.

In the meanwhile, Edward Stettinius, U.S. Secretary of State, declares that Turkey's rupture of relations with Japan forms a concrete contribution to the victory of the anti-Axis over the Axis Powers. He adds that the United States Government welcomes this severance of diplomatic and economic relations with Japan as a further step in limiting Axis activities in foreign countries.

Ridicules Turkey's Position

Domei

BERLIN, January 5.—Strongly ridiculing the announcement made by Turkish Foreign Minister Hassan Saka in which he declared that Turkey, wishing to make a contribution to the shortening of the war in East Asia, had broken off diplomatic relations with Japan, the spokesman of the Wilhelmstrasse ironically asserted:

"We can only congratulate Turkey on having politicians who have led Turkey into such an undignified position and such political stupidity."

Roosevelt, Kung Confer

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 5.—President Roosevelt conferred with Dr. H. H. Kung, until recently Chungking Finance Minister, at the White House today.

JAPANESE AIR UNITS CONTINUE TO SMASH INVADER OF P.I. AREA

Movements of U.S. Forces in Lingayen, Panay Waters Being Closely Watched

(By Courtesy of Press Section)

In close unison with Units of the Special Attack Corps, Japanese Air Forces are daily continuing their attacks against enemy airfields on Leyte Island as well as on U.S. army and naval forces in nearby waters and are achieving brilliant successes as already announced in the series of communiques issued by the Imperial Headquarters.

In mobile operations, the enemy forces landed at a point between Palompon and San Isidro but were completely wiped out by Japanese Units stationed there.

Meanwhile, according to a Japanese reconnaissance carried out on January 5, an enemy convoy consisting of about 100 landing barges escorted by a task force was spotted steaming westward at a point west of Lingayen Bay in the Philippines. Another powerful task force with about 10 converted aircraft carriers as its mainstay was seen west of Panay Island also cruising westward while yet another convoy was sighted cruising westward south of Negros Island.

The movements of the U.S. 38th task force in waters east of Taiwan and its possible assault against Luzon are now being watched with considerable interest.

Under the circumstances, the Imperial Japanese Forces in the Philippine area are now waiting for an opportunity to smash the enemy force and particularly to frustrate any new landing which is apparently contemplated on Luzon Island.

2 Enemy Transports Sunk
By SATO and YOSHIDA
Of the Military Press Corps

PHILIPPINE BASE, January 4.—Japanese Air Units starting the new year with raids on enemy airfields at San Jose and Tacloban and continuous attacks on enemy vessels in the surrounding seas, sank one and damaged two medium-sized transport ships in the Sulu Sea on January 1. During this engagement one large-type enemy transport vessel which had been burning furiously from the previous night was seen to sink with a great explosion.

Due to the Japanese bombings, a fire of severe proportions broke out at one place in San Jose Airfield. At Tacloban Airfield two places were set ablaze, and at one place a big explosion was caused.

On January 2, concentrating the attacks on airfields, the Japanese units in bombing the north and south airfields at San Jose, caused explosions and fires in over 10 places.

On the same day our Wild Eagles on their return flight over the Sulu Sea immediately sank one small-type enemy transport while also three places were set on fire at Tacloban Airfield.

In spite of severe losses suffered, the enemy still continued reinforcing San Jose and on January 3 moved a fleet of five 10,000-ton large-type transports and over 60 small vessels to the Sulu Sea but by the immediate action of two planes of the Kamikaze Special Attack Corps one large-type transport was instantaneously damaged and set ablaze while another, seen to list after being set on fire, is believed to have surely sunk. Besides this one 1,000-ton class landing boat was immediately sunk.

'BIG 3' CONFERENCE SET

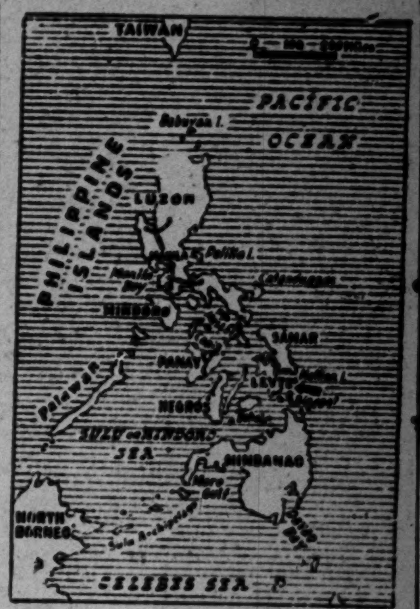
Will Meet After January 20 Following F.D.R.'s Inauguration

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 5.—The Big-Three meeting between President Roosevelt, Premier Josef Stalin and Prime Minister Winston Churchill will be held some time after January 20 the date of Roosevelt's inauguration, the President told reporters today, according to a Washington dispatch.

Another report said that Roosevelt met Lord Halifax, British Ambassador in Washington, today and conferred for 45 minutes. They discussed mainly the Polish and Greek problems, British and American relation and the meeting among the three leaders.

After the meeting Halifax said that Churchill and Roosevelt will hold a secret meeting before seeing the Soviet Premier.



U.S. AVERS RECOGNITION OF LONDON POLE REGIME

Stand Reaffirmed in Face of Official Soviet Acceptance of Lublin Setup As Gov't

Domei

LISBON, January 5.—The United States reopened the anti-Axis political cleavage by reaffirming its recognition of the Polish exile Government in London in the face of official notice that the Soviet Government has recognized the Lublin Committee as the Provisional Government of Poland, according to a U.P. Washington dispatch.

It was reported that Andrei Gromyko, Soviet Ambassador in Washington, called on the State Department and conferred with Secretary of State Edward Stettinius yesterday afternoon, but the State Department spokesman declared that the United States Government had nothing to add to Stettinius's statement on January 1 in which he said "this Government continues to maintain formal diplomatic relations with the Polish exile Government in London." The spokesman revealed that Moscow had notified the United States in advance of its intention to recognize the Lublin regime.

London Poles Shocked

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 5.—The recognition of the Lublin Polish Provisional Government by the Soviet Union had a bomb-like effect on the London Poles, a Reuter correspondent wrote from London today.

The report said that the Polish exile Government in London believed this step would make it very difficult to bring about understanding among the anti-Axis. It describes the Soviet action as a "policy of fait accompli" contributable to the lack of agreement among the anti-Axis nations.

Izvestia Welcomes Gov't
Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, January 5.—Whatever the defenders of the Polish Emigre Government in London might do, it was reactionary and had nothing in common with the Polish people, declared the Moscow paper Izvestia, in its issue yesterday, according to a Moscow dispatch.

The Provisional Government in Lublin, the Izvestia declared, expressed the will of the people of Poland, and the Soviet Government had received the news of the establishment of the Provisional Government with great satisfaction.

Soviet Announces Recognition

Domei

MOSCOW, January 5.—The Soviet Government has recognized the Polish Provisional Government in Lublin today and a statement to that effect was issued today by the People's Commissariat for Foreign Affairs.

The announcement reads as follows: "The Soviet Government received official communication from the Provisional National Government of Poland to the effect that the Polish Committee of National Liberation had been transformed into the Provisional National Government. Simultaneously the Provisional Government suggested that diplomatic representatives should be exchanged.

"The Supreme Soviet Council pursuing its policy of maintaining and strengthening friendly relations with democratic Poland has decided to recognize the Provisional National Government of the Polish Republic and to exchange envoys.

"Victor Karharovich Lebedev has been appointed envoy extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Soviet Union."

British Policy Unaffected

Domei

STOCKHOLM, January 5.—Soviet recognition of the Lublin Committee as the Provisional Government of Poland does not in any way affect the policy of the British Government which continues to recognize the Polish Government in London, it was stated by the British Foreign Office today, according to a Reuters dispatch from London.

Official quarters stated that there had been correspondence with the Soviet Government on the question of recognizing the Lublin Committee, but it had failed to produce agreement. Accordingly the announcement of the Soviet decision caused no surprise in London, these quarters stated.

2 ENEMY CARRIERS, A BATTLESHIP SUNK BY ISSEI AIR CORPS

One Transport Sunk, Transport, Oil Tanker Blasted by Shinshu Planes, Says I.H.Q.

The Shinshu Special Attack Air Unit with three planes sank one enemy transport and blasted another transport as well as one oil tanker on the evening of January 4 in attacking a convoy which was preparing to land troops in the neighborhood of San Jose on Mindoro Island, the Imperial Headquarters announced at 4 p.m. on Saturday.

Dashing into an enemy convoy escorted by a task force that appeared in the waters west of Luzon Island at dusk on January 5, four planes of the Issei Special Attack Air Unit instantaneously sank two aircraft carriers and one battleship, the communique also stated.

The communique follows:

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
4 p.m. January 6

"1.—Three planes of the Shinshu Air Unit of Our Special Attack Corps, on the evening of January 4, dashed against an enemy convoy which was preparing a landing in the vicinity of San Jose on Mindoro Island and sank one transport as well as heavily damaging and setting ablaze another transport and one oil tanker.

"2.—Escorted by a task force, another enemy convoy appeared in the waters west of Luzon Island on the evening of January 5.

"Four planes of the Issei Air Unit of Our Special Attack Corps promptly dashed into the enemy and instantaneously sank two aircraft carriers and one battleship."

Transports Still Burning

The Issei Special Attack Air Unit, with four planes, instantaneously sank two enemy aircraft carriers and one battleship on the evening of January 5 when they attacked a powerful task force west of Lingayen Bay on Luzon Island.

In the meanwhile another enemy convoy escorted by a task force was preparing a landing of troops near San Jose on Mindoro Island at dusk of January 4. Detecting this movement three planes of the Shinshu Air Unit of the Army Special Attack Corps sped to the spot and sank one transport and damaged another while an oil tanker was also heavily damaged.

The transport and oil tanker were seen still burning next morning.

3 B-29's Raid Metropolis

Two B-29 bombers coming from the Mariana area penetrated over Tokyo at 9 p.m. on January 5. Before fleeing, the raiders dropped some incendiary bombs resulting in the outbreak of fires which were promptly extinguished. Again, shortly after 5 a.m. the following day, one Mariana-based B-29 appeared over the metropolis and fled after dropping a few incendiaries. No damage was caused.

Churchill Visits France

Domei

LISBON, January 5.—Prime Minister Winston Churchill returned to London this afternoon from France where during a short visit he met General Dwight Eisenhower, Commander-in-Chief of the Anti-Axis Forces in Europe, and Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery, Deputy Commander-in-Chief, it was officially announced in London today. Churchill was accompanied by Field Marshal Sir Alan Brooke, Chief of General Staff, and while in France saw also President General Charles de Gaulle of the Provisional Government of France and Alfred Duff-Cooper, British Ambassador to Paris.

GREEK REGULARS EAGER TO FIGHT AGAINST AXIS

New Foreign Minister Desires To Participate in War; Truce Talk Again Fails

Special to the Nippon Times

ZURICH, January 5.—John Sophianopoulos, newly appointed Greek Foreign Minister, announced today that the new Greek Government headed by Premier General Nicholas Plastiras wishes to participate as soon as possible in the anti-Axis battle against the Axis aggressors, according to an Athens report.

The statement was followed by an appeal by Premier Plastiras to the Left Wing ELAS militia to lay down their arms urging them to accept the British military terms. The Foreign Ministry said that if the British terms are accepted, the Government would welcome a parley with ELAS representatives. It will be recalled that Lieutenant General Ronald Scobie, Commander of the British Forces in Greece, has demanded the rebels to disarm and leave Athens. However, it is reported that peace negotiations between the EAM and the Greek Government have come to a halt.

Meanwhile, the Greek Premier took office on Thursday and in an official statement said that the Government will give immediate attention to the relief and rehabilitation programs and to the improvement of the standards of living in Greece. He also emphasized that the Government intended to discover and punish severely the ring leaders of the ELAS forces but said that there would be no mass punishment for his intention was to restore general confidence among the population.

In the meantime, fighting continues in Athens where reports said that British troops and Greek regulars have made good progress against the EAM. British troops have now cleared two-thirds of the capital and John Nixon, BBC correspondent, describes the day as the most successful since the battle began nearly a month ago. It was reported that British mobile columns captured many munition dumps and about 900 prisoners north and west of Athens.

Cabinet Line-Up Given

Domei

LISBON, January 5.—General Nicholas Plastiras who on Wednesday formed his new Government and with his colleagues was sworn into office by Regent Archbishop Damaskinos of Athens has assumed the office of Prime Minister as well as the posts of War, Navy, Air and Merchant Marine, according to an Athens dispatch.

Other members of his Government were revealed yesterday as John Sophianopoulos, Foreign Minister; Aristoteles Sideris, Finance and Supply; Nicholas Kolkvas, Justice and Health; Pericles Rhallis, Interior and Education; John Glavknis National Economy and Exchequer; and General Lucas Sakellaroppoulos, Communications.

London Papers Comment

Domei

GENEVA, January 5.—The new government in Greece under General Nicholas Plastiras would rather be considered a basis for negotiations than a kind of Government which finally was bound to emerge from the present crisis since this government had no EAM representative, writes the Daily Telegraph, dealing with the Greek question, according to a London dispatch.

The News Chronicle writes that Premier Plastiras probably considered himself dictator of his country whose power he intended to establish on the points of the British bayonets. If, however, British arms were going to be used for the establishment of another dictatorship, the inhabitants of the country would utter a cry of indignation.

Criticizing the Plastiras declaration, the diplomatic correspondent of the Daily Herald writes that nothing had been said of the establishment of a democratic Government or the holding of free elections. Everything seemed to hint at the fact that the newly appointed Premier intended not to conclude an armistice but rather to continue fighting, believing that Lieutenant General Ronald Scobie, British Commander in Greece, would point out his opponents to him.

POILUS POORLY EQUIPPED

French Troops Fighting in Vosges Ill And Lack Food, Clothing

Domei

BERLIN, January 5.—Over half of the troops of the French army now fighting in the Vosges are suffering from some sort of illness principally due to lack of food and adequate clothing, the French newspaper Les Allobroges wrote today.

The paper declared that 60,000 French troops fighting on the front are without adequate footgear and almost all of them are suffering from typhoid fever and infested with lice. Only one-tenth of their needs of underwear, tobacco, food and ammunition supplies, the paper complained, are supplied.

Deep Attachment of Leaders at Front Base To Youthful Air Heroes Is Graphically Told

By H. OMORI
Of the Military Press Corps

PHILIPPINE BASE, January 4.—"Is there a father who can cold-heartedly say to his son 'Die!'?" These were the words of Lieutenant General Kyoji Tominaga, Commander of the Japanese Army Air Forces in the Philippines, as he watched the air heroes take off, one by one, from the foremost base in the Philippines. Then, he added with a touch of deep sadness, "In all stages of the decisive aerial warfare in the Philippines, we have to do this."

The Lieutenant General's paternal attachment to each of the young members of the Special Attack Corps is shared by the Chief of the Staff, staff members and the corps commanders, and many are the touching stories of the warm, fatherly affection of the commanding officers shown to the young heroes, who take off on attacks from which there are no returns to the base. The following few pages from the correspondent's war diary, etching out in sharp outline the profiles of the Chief of the Staff, a Staff Member and a Corps Commander, are dedicated to the spirit of the fallen members of the Special Attack Corps.

Chief of the Staff—On the night a Unit of the Special Attack Corps, organized in Japan, reached the base, a welcome supper, frugal but abounding with the warmth of feeling, was served at the orders of the Commander. These boys were young and manly, the greater half of whom were graduates of the X class of the Special Pilot Training Course. Their countenances were bright and cheery.

The Chief of Staff went around gently inquiring of each one about his family. Each member of the Unit spoke happily of parents and brothers and sisters at home. Only Second Lieutenant M. kept quiet. "What about your father and mother?" asked the Chief of the Staff. Second Lieutenant M. answered that he had lost his parents in early childhood and had been brought up by his uncle. The Chief of the Staff nodded his head in silence.

When the merry repast was over, the Chief of the Staff flung his arms over the shoulders of Second Lieutenant M. and said, "Come and sleep at my quarters tonight. From this night on I'll be your old man." A few days later in the grey haze of still unbroken dawn, Second Lieutenant M.'s plane roared off on an attack on the enemy fleet. The Chief of the Staff's eyes glistened with undue brightness as his gaze followed the rapidly diminishing spot in the distant horizon.

Staff Member—The night of November 1, the night before the take off of the Banda Unti, was beautifully clear. Staff Member A. had given his last instructions to Second Lieutenant Tanaka, Ikuta, Kubo and others who were to participate in the attack the next morning. He came out into the starlit night. The machines, all in readiness for the morning, were perfectly still and not a sound disturbed the deep silence of the night.

Staff Member A. went back into the barracks. He could hear the regular breathing of the air heroes, as they slept deeply and peacefully, as if completely unaware of what the morrow expected of them. Staff Member A. laid himself down on his cot, but sleep would not come. All through the night, he turned his body this way and that taking care not to disturb the Staff Member sleeping next to him.

XX Corps Commander—In frantic efforts to send reinforcements to the San Jose airfield in Mindoro, the enemy was pushing his third transport fleet northward in Sulu waters. On December 28, orders were also issued to the Kyokko Unit. The clouds hung heavy and in the afternoon squalls hit the earth in lashing downpour. XX Corps Commander, who had been in charge of the training of the Kyokko Unit in between the raids of enemy planes, beamed with satisfaction as his young subordinates made ready to take off.

XX Corps Commander had become specially attached to Second Lieutenant M. of his own Corps. He was imparting the last instructions on the technique of attack to the young air hero. Second Lieutenant M. presently stood at rigid attention before the Corps Commander and saluting said, "Second Lieutenant M. is now taking off on an attack. Thank you, Corps Commander, for all the trouble you have taken for my sake." XX Corps Commander stood straight up to Second Lieutenant M. and gripping him firmly by the shoulders said, "I'm depending on you."

The first, second and third planes of the Tesshin Unit roared off. The fourth plane, manned by Second Lieutenant M., belonged to the Kyokko Unit. A sudden squall drenched to the skin those watching the planes take off. His hand firmly gripping the hilt of his sword, XX Corps Commander strained his eyes to catch a glimpse of the tiny speck visible in ever decreasing degree between the breaks of the dark rain clouds.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

January 5

The battle in the northern Ardennes increased in violence yesterday and American divisions which again attempted to break through were stopped after the first initial successes. In the Bastogne area our tank formations maintained their strong pressure and the enemy attacks proved a failure.

The front between Saargemuend and the Rhine is of mobile character and our troops are still advancing despite the counterattacks launched by the enemy formations which were in the meantime particularly reinforced in the Vosges area. The town of Weissenburg in Alsace was taken from the enemy apart from numerous other localities in Lorraine while our troops crossed the Lauter in a southerly direction. In the west yesterday, 76 enemy tanks and armored vehicles were either captured or destroyed including numerous guns and war material.

In central Italy, the heavy defensive battle was continued and our troops in the area north of Faenza held their own against all enemy attempts at breaking through while our troops northwest of Ravenna have been waging a fierce defensive battle against advanced enemy formations.

The battle for Budapest is still continuing and German and Hungarian defenders also yesterday warded off strong enemy attacks at the eastern border of the town. A fierce battle is still raging for some breaches. The Soviets, attacking between the Gran and Gross Steffelsdorf, failed to reach any vital points. While a Soviet fighting group, which had infiltrated into our positions, was cut off by our tanks in counterthrusts and annihilated. Strong formations of our battleplanes also yesterday supported the army in Hungary disabling 18 enemy tanks. Altogether 30 Soviet planes were destroyed of which 26 were shot down by our fighters and battleplanes. In Courland several Soviet attacks of local importance south of Frauenburg collapsed.

Only minor formations of enemy low-level raiders were over the Reich territory yesterday while British bombers again raided Berlin in the evening hours and at midnight.

The fire of our retaliation weapons on London was intensified yesterday.

638,139 U.S. Casualties

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 5.—Casualties of the United States armed forces for both the army and navy have now reached 638,139, the War and Navy Departments announced today, according to a Washington dispatch. Army casualties through December 21 and including those suffered in the German offensive totaled 566,352 of whom 103,991 are listed as dead while the navy's casualties aggregated 81,787 including 31,332 dead.

LONDON PRESS DEPLORES CRITICAL U.S. RELATIONS

Cool Situation Lamented but No Solution Offered—Stettinius Offers Explanation

Domei

LISBON, January 5.—The crisis in Anglo-American relations is the main topic of London newspaper leader writers and commentators, today, who generally described the situation as "deplorable" but failed to offer any suitable solutions, according to London reports.

Radio commentator MacDonald Hastings, for instance, declared that he simply had a feeling as if he was at a "party where the guests threw bricks at each other" and added "something seems to have gone wrong with Anglo-American relations." Hastings deplored the "cooling off" especially at the moment when the Germans are carrying out their attacks.

Meanwhile a Washington report quoted Edward Stettinius, U.S. State Secretary, as regarding the unauthorized publication by Drew Pearson of the confidential note from Lord Halifax to the State Department as "highly deplorable." The State Secretary's statement was taken to mean that a drastic investigation and severe punishment will be started.

The note in question was the confidential communication concerning differences between Britain and the United States regarding aid for Italy which Lord Halifax had presented to the State Department in September of last year.

Stettinius Issues Statement

Domei

LISBON, January 4.—Regarding the unauthorized publication by Drew Pearson, noted American columnist, of a confidential note from Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States to the U.S. State Department, Secretary of State Stettinius, made the following explanatory statement today, according to a Washington dispatch:

The note published by Pearson is an extract from the supplementary note given to the U.S. State Department by the British Ambassador on August 22, 1944. The aforementioned note was placed in the confidential file of the State Department, and it is most deplorable that it should have been published without proper proceedings. In this connection the State Department is ready to conduct thorough investigation.

The supplementary note was solely concerned with the statement jointly announced by Prime Minister Winston Churchill and President Franklin Roosevelt on September 26, of last year in relation to the Italian issue. The note merely reveals part of the negotiations that took place between Churchill and Roosevelt, and it is highly deplorable that it has caused misunderstandings as to the details of the talks.

WAR SUPPORT PLEDGED BY REPUBLICANS IN U.S.

G.O.P. Will Continue to Cooperate With Democrats on Vital Issues, Brownell Says

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, January 5.—The combined faith and continued cooperation of the Republican Party with the Democrats on matters affecting the war and the peace was pledged today by Herbert Brownell, chairman of the Republican National Committee, at a press conference in Washington, according to a Washington dispatch.

Brownell said: "I think in certain matters affecting the progress of the War and the building of a lasting peace, my promise in cooperation is within the public interest. That is the same stand the party took in the Presidential campaign and undoubtedly it will continue to be the party's stand in the months ahead."

Meanwhile, Senate Democrats had an open invitation today from Senator Wallace H. White of Maine, the Minority Leader to team up with the Republicans in backing sound legislation and opposing unsound proposals. The Associated Press quoted Senator White as saying that there might be a number of times when a sizeable group of Democrats might see eye to eye with their Republican colleagues. The Democrats hold 57 seats in the Senate and the Republicans 39.

White, yesterday, was made permanent Minority floor leader He said. "We would be kidding ourselves and trying to kid the country if we operated under the assumption that we could get legislation passed without Democratic votes. When a measure is sound, we expect to support it regardless of its origin. When the Administration presses something unsound, we hope enough Democrats will join us in defeating it."

ENEMY PLANES RAID DAVAO

2 Hostile Aircraft Downed by Japanese on Spot; Menado Also Hit

Domei

PHILIPPINE BASE, January 5.—An aggregate total of more than 10 enemy planes including B-24's and P-38's came attacking the Davao area on the morning of January 3. Again in the afternoon of the same day, Davao was subjected to enemy raids by more than 20 B-25's and P-38's, and two of the attackers were brought down by the Japanese.

Yiojima Attacked

Domei

BASE IN THE CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA, January 5.—A formation of some 40 planes comprising B-29's and P-38's carried out repeated daylight bombing attacks on Yiojima on January 3.

Enemy Planes Repulsed

Domei

ADVANCE BASE IN THE SOUTHERN AREA, January 5.—A formation of 17 B-26's and four P-38's carried out daytime raids on Menado, Amoerang and Tondano in northern Celebes on January 1, Again on the following day, four B-24's and three P-38's came attacking Menado. On both occasions the enemy raiders were repulsed by the Japanese Units on the spot.

2 B-24's Downed

Domei

RANGOON, January 5.—A delayed dispatch received here revealed that a Japanese patrol boat in the Gulf of Martaban shot down two B-24's and damaged two others out of 11 B-24's which attempted to raid our positions at a point 60 miles south of Moulmein on the afternoon of January 1. One enemy airman who bailed out by parachute was taken prisoner.

Bulgarian Ex-Leaders Returned

Domei

LISBON, January 4.—Prince Cyril, former Regent of Bulgaria, Bogdan Filov, former Premier, and General Nikola Mihoff, former War Minister, who had been taken to Moscow and placed under the supervision of the Soviet Government were recently handed back to the Bulgarian Government by the Moscow Government and have already reached Sofia, according to information from the Bulgarian capital. The three are expected shortly to be tried at the "people's court."

TWO EASTERN FABLES

By JOSE RIZAL

There are two fables, the one in Japan and the other in the Philippine Islands, which have many traits in common, and the intercomparison of which may perhaps be of some interests to ethnologists.

I

The Philippine children, in their earliest years, learn the Tale of the Tortoise and the Monkey, or, as it is called in the Tagal language. Ang bunay ni papong at ni matsing. There is scarcely in Tagal literature another tale more popular and better known than this, although there are many prettier and more interesting. To it are traceable many sayings, phrases, maxims, and comparisons, which have received currency in reference to various conditions of common day life. This tale runs as follows:

The tortoise and the monkey found a banana tree floating amidst the waves of a river. It was a very fine tree, with large green leaves, and with roots, just as if it had been pulled off by a storm. They took it ashore. "Let us divide it" said the tortoise, "and plant each its portion." They cut it in the middle, and the monkey, as the stronger, took for himself the upper part of the tree, thinking that it would grow quicker, for it had leaves. The tortoise, as the weaker, had the lower part, that looked ugly, although it had roots. After some days, they met.

"Hello, Mr. Monkey," said the tortoise, "how are you getting on with your banana tree?"

"Alas," answered the monkey, "it has been dead a long time! And yours, Miss Tortoise?"

"Very nice, indeed; with leaves and fruits. Only I cannot climb up to gather them."

"Never mind," said the malicious monkey, "I will climb and pick them for you,"

"Do, Mr. Monkey," replied the tortoise gratefully.

And so they walked toward her house.

As soon as the monkey saw the bright yellow fruits hanging between the large green leaves, he climbed up and began plundering, munching and gobbling, as quickly as he could.

"But give me some, too," said the tortoise, seeing that the monkey did not take the slightest notice of her.

"Not even a bit of the skin, if it is edible," rejoined the monkey, both his cheeks crammed with bananas.

The tortoise meditated revenge. She went to the river, picked up some pointed snails, planted them around the banana tree, and hid herself under a cocoa-nut shell. When the monkey came down he hurt himself and began to bleed.

After a long search, he found the tortoise.

"You, wretched creature, here you are!" said he. "You must pay now for your wickedness; you must die. But as I am very generous, I will leave to you the choice of your death. Shall I pound you in a mortar, or shall I throw you into the water? Which do you prefer"

"The mortar, the mortar," answered the tortoise. "I am so afraid of getting drowned."

"O ho!" laughed the monkey; "indeed! You are afraid of getting drowned! Now I will drown you."

And, going to the shore, he slung the tortoise into the water. But soon the tortoise reappeared, swimming and laughing at the deceived, artful monkey.

II

This is the Philippine tale of the monkey and the tortoise. The Japanese fable. Saru Kani Kassen, or, Battle of the Monkey and the Crab, as published by Kobusha at Tokyo, is as follows:

A monkey and a crab once met when going round a mountain.

The monkey had picked up a persimmon-seed, and the crab had a piece of toasted rice-cake. The monkey seeing this, and wishing to get something that could be turned to good account at once said: "Pray, exchange that rice-cake for this persimmon-seed." The crab, without a word, gave up his cake, and took the persimmon-seed and planted it. At once it sprung up, soon became a tree so high, one had to look up at it. The tree was full of persimmons, but the crab had no means of climbing the tree. So he asked the monkey to climb up and get the persimmons for him. The monkey got up on a limb of the tree and began to eat the persimmons. The unripe persimmons he threw at the crab, but all the ripe and good ones he put in his pouch. The crab under the tree thus got his shell badly bruised, and only by good luck escaped into his hole, where he lay distressed with pain and not able to get up. Now, when the relatives and household of the crab heard how matters stood, they were surprised and angry, and declared war and attacked the monkey, who leading forth a numerous following, bid defiance to the other party. The crabs finding themselves unable to meet and cope with this force became still more exasperated and enraged, and retreated into their hole, and held a council of war. Then come a rice mortar, a pounder, a bee, and an egg, and together they devised a deep-laid plot for revenge.

First, they requested that peace be made with the crabs; and thus they induced the king of the monkeys to enter their hole unattended. and seated him on the earth. The monkey, not suspecting any plot, took the hibasi, or poker, to stir up the slumbering fire, when bang! went the egg, which was lying hidden in the ashes, and burned the monkey's arm. Surprised and alarmed, he plunged his arm into the pickle-tub in the kitchen to relieve the pain of the burn. Then the bee, which was hidden near the tub, stung him sharply in the face, already wet with tears. Without waiting to brush off the bee, and howling bitterly he rushed for the back door; but just then some seaweed entangled his legs and made him slip. Then down came the pounder tumbling on him from a shelf, and the mortar, too, came rolling down on him from the roof the porch, and broke his back and so weakened him that he was unable to rise up. Then out came the crabs in a crowd and brandishing on high their pincers pinched the the monkey to pieces.

III

There is no doubt that these two tales, although their ends are very different, have both only one origin, or perhaps one is a modification of the other. There the monkey plays the same part, greedy, malicious, wicked and revengeful; the Japanese persimmon-tree is the Philippine banana, which grows and brings forth fruit quicker than any other tree. There are many points of resemblance between the crab and the tortoise, and there is a mortar mentioned too. Which of both tales is the more ancient? Which is the more original, and where do they come from?

A careful analysis and intercomparison of both tales will show us that the leading idea of both came either from the South, from Sumatra, Java, Borneo, Mindanao, or had its origin from the Philippine Islands, and afterwards migrated northwards with the people or the race which came from the South to inhabit the Japanese and the Riu-Kiu Islands, being modified in its course in conformity with the climates and the customs of the different countries. There is a Japanese tradition of a hero called, I think Timnotenho, who is supposed to have come from those Southern Islands. The Malay origin of the Japanese people is worth being treated separately.

The Tagal tale exists in the Bisaya Islands too, with few modifications. We do not know if there is another analogue in the Malav Archipelago, in Sumatra or Java. If there is comparison with the Tagal version it would throw perhaps more light on its origin. For the moment we shall satisfy our curiosity by making an analysis and drawing some deductions suggested by a strict intercomparison of both tales.

The beginning of both is the same, except that the Japanese has a crab instead of a tortoise. This change is very important. I was told, when I was in Japan, that the tortoise was with the Japanese people a symbol of eternity or of something sacred, holy etc., which may be suggested by the Chinese civilization. This is not the case with the Tagal, which sees in the tortoise a poor little innocent thing but artful in its way, rather, to be pitied than admired or respected. But there is in the Philippines a superstition also, that if somebody puts his foot on a tortoise the sole of the foot will burst into many lines. Perhaps it is a pious superstition to prevent naughty children from stepping on poor, slow walking tortoises.

The Philippine banana tree is more natural than the persimmon-seed and the rice-cake in the Japanese tale. Perhaps because there is no banana tree in Japan, the people have been obliged to adopt these modifications. It seems too foolish or to wise to exchange a piece of toasted rice-cake for a persimmon-seed. Besides, the toasted rice-cake shows more of a refined civilization than a mere banana tree. Further, the phrases "At once it (persimmon-seed) sprang up, and soon became a tree so high. . . . The tree was full of persimmons," may more fitly be applied to a banama tree than to a persimmon-seed. Further, people often pull up banana trees, as the heroes of our story do, plant them and get fruits (or the heart which brings the fruits) in three or four days. The case is unnatural for a persimmon-seed. So we think that the Tagal version is more natural.

"But the crab had no means of climbing the tree." This phrase would be correct in the case of a tortoise; we think the crab with its pincers and feet could climb as well as a monkey; at least, the crab climbs very well on any stone wall, etc. This impossibility of climbing, more natural in a tortoise, suggests the supposition that the crab was not in the original tale.

In what follows, the two fables nearly agree till we come to where the crab escapes into his hole.

In the Philippine tale, the revenge of the tortoise, although a little childish, shows a very primitive and peculiar way, "with pointed periwinkles," while in the Japanese there are traces of a more advanced state of society, like the war between crabs and monkeys. The council of war, held in the hole of the crabs, is very remarkable. The rice-mortar, the pounder, the bee and the egg, helping the exasperate crabs, give us an idea of the free imagination of the Japanese people. Not only the animated beings, but the inanimate things too, speak and give advice, feel and move like the others.

First they requested that peace be made with the crabs; and thus they induced the king of the monkeys to enter their hole unattended. . . .

It seems to us that all this part is interpolated by some not very very clever story-teller, perhaps in order to gratify the natural wish for revenge. Then if the monkeys were the stronger and the crabs the weaker, which desired that peace be made, these could not have induced the king to come unattended, as he is not constrained by a more powerful foe; but the crabs would go to the monkeys to ask for peace and to offer conditions. The same may be said of the egg which burst under the ashes only to burn the monkey's arm. This part may have been added, long after the wandering people came to Japan; moreover, the hibasi only exists in cold climates. The way the tale ends is rather complicated than natural, while in the Philippine version it is plainer and shows a more delicate observation of character and feeling. The mischievous monkey lays a very wicked dilemma before the tortoise, pretending to be generous: either to die by being pounded in a mortar or to be drowned. The artful but not wicked tortoise, knowing the real intention and malignity of the monkey, beats him with the same weapons and chooses the mortar. The monkey, continuing his wickedness till the last, refuses what he promised and throws the tortoise into the water. The interest is maintained till the very conclusion.

In both versions there is a great deal of morality: it is the eternal fight between the weak and the powerful. In the Philippine version we find more philosophy, more plainness of form, while in the Japanese there is more civilization, and so to speak, more diplomatic usage.

After the short analysis we may give it as our opinion that this Japanese tale had its origin from some Southern country from where would come also the Philippine version. This last is evidently nearer to the primitive form (if not the primitive form itself) than the Japanese. The Japanese version is much changed and added to, perhaps by other peoples and other civilizations it has met with. This tale may perhaps be considered as one of the oldest tales in the Far East. The differences between both versions show that one is not a copy of the other, and that they must have existed in both countries long before the Europeans came to that part of the world. The fact that this tale is known everywhere in the Philippines, in every island, province, village, and dialect, proves that it must be the inheritance of an extinct civilization, common to all the races which ever lived in that region.

In conclusion we would give expression to a wish that Oriental scholars who make a study of the Malay Archipelago may tell us if there are tales of this kind known there in connection with the versions we have been placing before our readers.

MRS. PANDIT IN NEW YORK

Nehru's Sister Tells Meet British Cause of Differences in Country

Domei

LISBON, January 3.—Mrs. Vijay Lakshmi Pandit, sister of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Former President of the Indian National Congress, told an Indian meeting in New York last night, "Whatever differences may exist among the various races of India, they cannot be ironed out so long as the British dominate the country," according to a New York dispatch.

In a speech at a reception given in her honor by the Indian League of America, she said, "The British as hitherto are successfully playing one community against another. Feeling satisfied with having accentuated the differences between the Hindus and Muslims, they are now concentrating on the depressed classes and creating further dissension and disunity in the country."

The reception was held to introduce Mrs. Pandit to the Indian community of New York and Sirdar Singh, President of the Indian League of America, welcoming her said, "Since the outbreak of the war, the British Government in India has sent scores of propagandists to America to present the British point of view. We have met civilians, military officers, naval officers and Government officials, but this is the first time a leader presenting the national point of view has been allowed to come to the United States." He expressed the hope that "in the name of fair-play, the British Government in India will allow more Indian leaders to visit America."

GERMAN TANKS SUPERIOR

Daily Mail Admits King Tigers Best Produced by World So Far

Domei

GENEVA, January 5.—The Germans have succeeded in outstripping the anti-Axis countries in the armament race, declared the Daily Mail in an editoral. The German "King Tiger" is the best the world has produced so far. The second and third places are occupied by the "Tiger" and "Panther" types of the Germans. The best anti-Axis tank is the "Sherman" which, however, is no match for the German types.

Lieutenant General Martin writes in this connection in the Daily Telegraph that the "Tiger" tank has certainly been good enough. But this tank had now been replaced by the "King Tiger" which is a still more formidable machine. Martin stressed the fact that the Germans have been able to produce such a tank at this stage of the war. This should convince the anti-Axis group that the Germans are not slackening in their efforts to increase production and make new inventions.

U.S. Destroyer Sunk

Domei

LISBON, January 5.—The United States destroyer Reid has been lost due to Japanese action in the Philippine area, the U.S. Navy Department announced today but it did not disclose the extent of the casualties.

U.S. Spending Huge Amount

Domei

LISBON, January 5.—Year-end treasury figures revealed that the United States in its war effort is spending at the rate of approximately $270,000,000 a day, according to a Washington dispatch.

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BIG PLAN BEING DRAFTED TO RESHAPE METROPOL

How Tokyo Will Be Provided With Every Safeguard Against Air Raids

The best scientific and technical brains in Japan are now completing details of the plan for a Greater Tokyo Metropolis with every claim both to the capital of victorious Japan and to the metropolis of liberated Greater East Asia.

It is the intention of the authorities concerned to bring about the realization of the plan to complete the construction of Greater Tokyo Metropolis by the time the War of Greater East Asia is over.

An idea of what the capital of Japan will be looking like when Greater Tokyo Metropolis is a reality can be gained from the plans being drafted by the interested authorities to make the capital of Japan the scene of a celebration of victory in the War of Greater East Asia, the grandest ever before witnessed in the world, with participation by naval vessels in Tokyo Bay, by planes, and by land troops marching along the great roads connecting points around the area hedged in by the inner moat of the Imperial Palace.

In short, Greater Tokyo Metropolis the construction of which will be started as soon as plans are completed, will relegate to the background the metropolis of the greatest Western country. It will be served by railways and tramways mostly underground, with Government offices, public buildings, shops, and residences located in areas laid out in the safety zones and along the main fire-arresting roads and its factories in districts absolutely safe from fire and attack from the air.

Early last week outline of Greater Tokyo Metropolis was given to the press by Eiki Ishikawa, sectional chief of the City Planning Bureau of Tokyo Metropolis. The idea underlying the project of constructing Greater Tokyo Metropolis, according to Mr. Ishikawa, is to rearrange the capital of the nation in such a way as to help to carry the War of Greater East Asia through and of making it such as to enable it to have every claim to be representative of Greater East Asia.

Naturally the principle which is followed in the planning of Greater Tokyo Metropolis is that of providing the capital with perfect safety zones and fire-arresting roads and every safeguard against air raids based on considerations of the lay of the land.

Some safety zones and fire-arresting roads, according to Mr. Ishikawa, will be laid out in four directions from the inner moat while others will be so arranged as to encircle the moat. As a rule, the safety zones and fire-arresting roads will be 300 meters in width in the central part of the Metropolis and 100 meters in the Yamanote district that part of the Metropolis which was newly incorporated and the suburban districts.

There may not be any rearrangement of the Sobu, Joban, Chuo, Tokaido, and Tohoku railway lines which run in four directions from the heart of the Metropolis.

The Yamate line may also be retained, but another belt-line will be provided. This will run on the outer side of the present belt-line, and parallel to it.

The need of a second belt-line in the Metropolis have been felt as there developed a tendency for traffic moving in all directions from the central part of the city to increase by leaps and bounds. The projected belt-line will start from Kamata, run along the Tama River, turn to the north at Denen-Chofu, pass Komazawa, Matsubara, and Eifukucho, and connect with the Chuo line at Asagaya Station, then run to the northeast, pass Saginomiya, Nerima, and Kami-Itabashi and join the Tohoku line at Akabane Station.

The present line connecting Akabane and Kamata will be retained, while the site of the Tokyo Express and other private lines will not be altered.

The street-car lines will be adjusted. Those serving the central part of the Metropolis, with the exception of a few, will be closed, since their need will no longer be felt after the program of moving the population of the central part of the Metropolis to places safe from air-raids is completed.

As a matter of principle, all means of communication in Greater Tokyo Metropolis will be underground. In cases where they are on the surface of the ground, they will have adequate protection from fire and attack from the air.

In general, the Government offices, public buildings, factories, shops, and residences will be grouped in areas along the safety zones and the main fire-arresting roads.

Most of the Government offices are now located in the area with the inner moat as the center. These offices will be moved to localities along the Yamate line.

A notable feature of Greater Tokyo Metropolis will be the factory areas. All factories which are absolutely necessary for the maintenance of life in the Metropolis will be moved to sites in the remote parts of Kanagawa, Saitama, Tochigi and Ibaragi and to the hilly regions of the Kanto plain. They will be under the ground and will be so arranged that their capacity will not suffer from air raids.

Those factories which are necessary for life in the capital will be moved to areas laid out on the banks of the Tama, Edo, Naka, and Ara rivers and will have complete systems of fire prevention. Their one distinct advantage will be in the fact that they will have free access to waterways.

These factory areas will necessarily be limited, and those factories for which room cannot be found in the areas, will be placed in areas on the outer side of the new belt-line which will be running along the Yamate line at some distance from it.

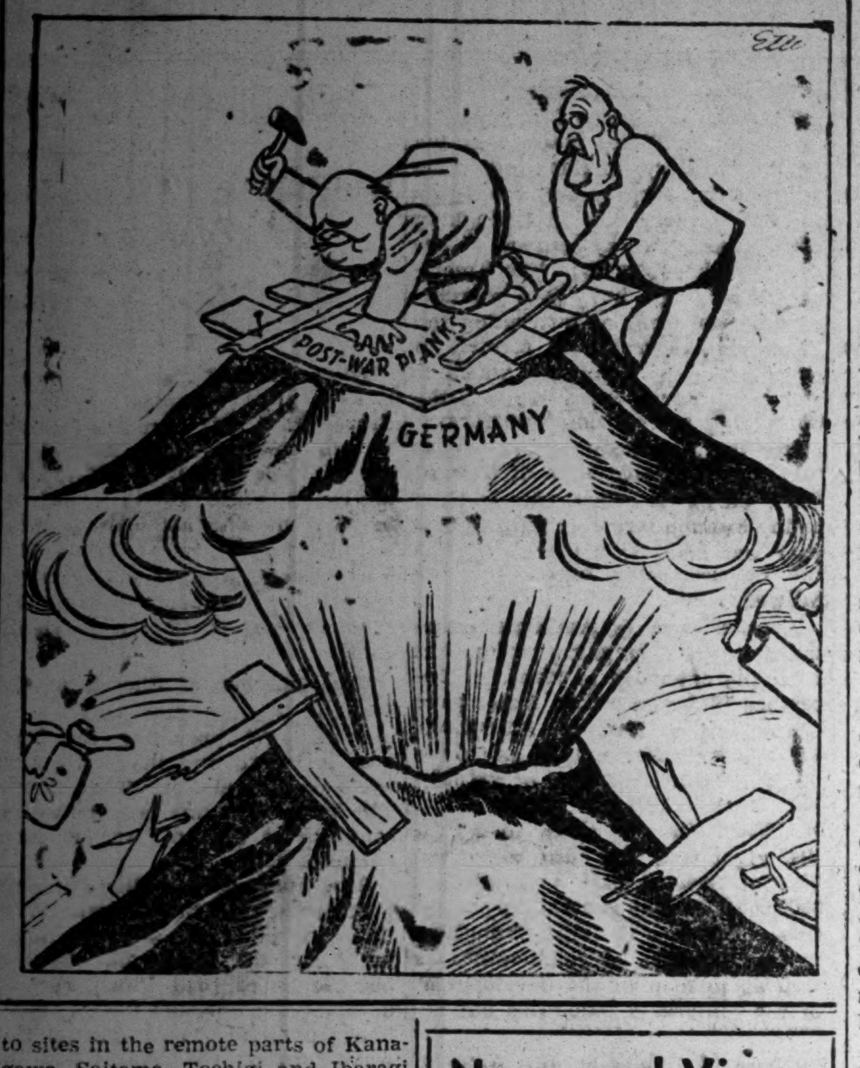
The triangular area constituted by Honjo, Fukagawa, Mukojima and Joto wards which are hemmed in by the Ara Channel and the Sumida River, will be cleared as it has been found unfit as a residential or factory area and that area will be used for great airports which will also serve as air bases.

There will be an end to the present commercial districts which are located in the central part of the Metropolis. The shops and trading houses which are situated in these commercial areas will be moved to places in the vicinity of stops or stations along the new belt-line. Such commercial areas will be located at intervals of 1,000 meters.

The residential district of Greater Tokyo Metropolis will be situated in the space between the Yamate line and the new belt-line which will be running parallel to it, at some distance from it. There will be Government offices and public buildings grouped on one side of the district. On the other side there will be the factory area. This is an ideal location for the residential area of a great city. There will then be an end to the traffic problem which is at present vexing the Metropolitan authorities.

That part of the central area of the Metropolis which is unsuitable for Government offices, factories, shops, or residences, will be placed under cultivation, as will also the open areas around the factory districts. The arrangement will have much to recommend itself from the point of view of meeting the food problem with which the Metropolis is confronted and of minimizing the damage done to the Metropolis by air raids.

Mr. Ishikawa stressed the fact that Greater Tokyo Metropolis, which is necessary to make sure of bringing the War of Greater East Asia to a completely victorious end, will be made possible of fulfilment only on the condition of dispersing the population of the Metropolis.



THAILAND RESUMING TITLES

Royal Ordinance Issued Granting Rank to Nobility and Officials

Domei

BANGKOK, January 5.—The Thai Government, under a Royal Ordinance issued on December 31 decided to revive the institution of titles for nobility and officials, which was discontinued at the time of the Phibun Government.

Nobility titles of Chao Phya, Phya, Phra, Luang and Khun, and also official titles of Maha Amatnayok, Mani Amat and Rang Amat, which had been in the institution since the time of the present dynasty, were abolished under Royal Ordinance dated May 15 and July 20, 1942, during the Phibun Administration.

However as these titles were generally in use even after their abolition, the present Government decided to revive the institution of titles with the beginning of the New Pear and issued a Royal Ordinance on December 31 cancelling the above two ordinances. Thus, persons who were divested of their titles under the old ordinances will be able to regain them through proper application.

News and Views

No Free Will

By K. OYA

Turkey's Grand National Assembly in its January 3 session decided to sever diplomatic relations with Japan. There is nothing surprising about this measure. It simply follows the actions of small nations whose will is not their own, or rather whose will is their own so long as it coincides with the will of the Anglo-American Governments. It is a unilateral measure to which all small countries have to submit without choice, that is if they belong to the Anglo-American sponsored anti-Axis world. The only political significance if any, in Turkey's announcement of the rupture of ties with Japan, is that it is a confirmation of our old agreement that there is no sovereignty in any of the small nations belonging to the anti-Axis line-up.

If Turkey's decision was her own, she could have made that decision and acted upon it when she broke off relations with Germany. The key to that obviously forced decision of Turkey against Japan is to be found, not in Japan-Turkish relationship itself, but in the external circumstances of Turkey. Turkey that had striven so courageously to stay out of this war, Turkey that had worked so hard to maintain her chosen neutrality politically, had finally to bow to the pressure of circumstances which were beyond her power to resist. The decision, then, was that of indignity, rather than of honor.

And what other external circumstances forced Turkey to submit to the political intrigues of Britain, and its ally, the United States? The reason why Britain found it necessary to tighten its pressure upon Turkey is obvious; she had to make up for her lost prestige in the Mediterranean after the blunder in Greece. Britain, and for that matter, the United States, had to do something to check the powerful tide of Soviet influence flooding the south. The complex diplomatic drama being unfolded on the stage of West Asia with puppet powers as the players has its plot woven around the conflict between the Anglo-American Powers and the Soviet-Union. And Turkey played into it to dance to the Anglo-American tune, rather than to her own.

That was a pity to Turkey for she has not shown herself totally incompetant in the past with her diplomatic game of maintaining her own balance by playing with the Anglo-American Powers with her right hand and the Soviet Union with her left. By submitting to the former, however, Turkey has by no means given up the Soviet Union. And if the latter did not show herself particularly hostile to Turkey's new measure against Japan, it is because the Soviet Union can afford to be generous after her continuous diplomatic triumphs over Britain and America in questions over Greece, France and Poland. Moscow can comfortably let Turkey incline slightly more to her detested rival as there is no particular harm to the Soviet-Union in that trivial gesture on the part of Turkey.

And the fact that Turkey of all countries gave up the last shred of her dignity as a sovereign power, which she had assumed fairly convincingly in the past, is the last letter of confirmation on the undignified status of all the smaller anti-Axis nations which are just so many willing puppets at the mercy of their Anglo-American-Soviet wire pullers.

Renew Fighting Pledge

Domei

SHONAN, January 4.—The Chinese and Eurasian residents here at mass rallies held yesterday in celebration of the New Year reaffirmed their determination to collaborate wholeheartedly with Japan until final victory is achieved over the Anglo-Americans.

COMBINED SAVINGS BANK SCHEDULED TO BE SET UP

Nine Banking Institutions in Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya To Be Merged

The work of adjusting the domestic structure to meet the current situation was pushed further on January 4 when the Finance Ministry decided that the nine great savings banks of Japan, located in Tokyo, Osaka, and Nagoya, be combined and one big savings banking institution brought into being.

The decision of the Finance Ministry was announced in a statement issued on January 4, which showed that all arrangements necessary for the realization of the merger had already been made.

Signature of merger agreements involving the Daiichi Sogo, Tokyo Chochiku, Naikoku Chochiku, Fudo Chokin, and Yasuda Chochiku took place at the main office of the Bank of Japan. The Osaka branch office of the Bank of Japan was the scene of action on the merger involving the Osaka Chochiku, Settsu Chochiku, and Nippon Sogo Chochiku. The Nippon Chochiku in the city of Nagoya signed the merger agreement at the Nagoya branch of the Bank of Japan.

The savings banking institution to be established will have deposits totaling ¥8,500,000,000, the largest amount which has ever been on deposit with a single savings bank in Japan.

What shall be the name of the combined savings bank, what shall be the size of its capital, how much it shall carry in reserve, and what shall be done for those employes whose services will no longer be required when the combined savings bank is operating are matters which will be decided by January 15 at the latest upon consultation between the authorities of the Finance Ministry and the Bank of Japan.

The prospect is that the combined savings bank will be opened some time next March.

U.S. NEEDS BIG CARGO SPACE

Replacement of Losses in West Requires 2,000,000 Tons of Bottoms

Domei

HEADQUARTERS OF FIELD MARSHAL VON RUNDSTEDT, January 5.—The 1,230 tanks which the Americans lost in action between the Moselle and the Meuse since December 16, 1944, were almost exclusively of the standard Sherman type. This tank weighs 32.6 tons each so that besides the 400 guns about 40,000 tons of high grade steel was lost. The number of tanks destroyed equals about six American tank divisions or a complete tank army.

The shipping space required to make up for such losses sustained within two weeks, may be illustrated by the following figures: One American tank division requires for an Atlantic crossing a tonnage of about 150,000 to 180,000 gross register tons. To replace the losses suffered in the first phase of the German winter offensive, the quartermaster general of General Dwight Eisenhower would thus be faced with the difficult task of providing 1,000,000 tons of shipping space at short notice.

Apart from these six tank divisions the Americans, during the same period, had about 10 infantry divisions so badly mauled that at least 70 per cent of all arms, vehicles and men must be replaced. Since all American infantry divisions are motorized they require an unusually large amount of shipping space. To replenish these 10 American infantry divisions at least another 1,000,000 tons of shipping space is necessary so that altogether 2,000,000 tons are required to make up the total American losses suffered in two weeks time.

Social and General

Philippine Ambassador Jorge B. Vargas will leave Tokyo this morning for the Ise Grand Shrines where he will offer prayers for the successful culmination of the war. He will be accompanied by the Director General of the Philippine Society, Second Secretary Faustino Sy-Changco and Secretary Kazuma Nakayama.

E. Vargas, son of the Philippine Ambassador to Japan, left Tokyo early this week for a trip to his homeland. He is expected to return in about five weeks.

Mr. Staberey, who is staying at the Fujiya Hotel in Miyanoshita, spent a short time in Tokyo on business.

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PRESS COMMENTS

Saturday, January 6

TAX INCREASE BILL

NIPPON SANGYO—In looking over the draft for the tax increases just adopted by the Cabinet Council, it may be said that new taxes bound to end in a too theoretical result have been avoided; that simply an increase of the wartime financial revenue has been made the main objective, and that measures have been limited to raising the rates for part of the effective tax items, and that thus the draft altogether meets the requirement of a wartime tax increase.

If we enumerate the points deserving particular attention among the contents of the tax increase bill, there is first the fact that among the income taxes, the composite income tax has been left untouched, while the rate for the classified income tax has been raised by 3 per cent, which is expected to bring an increase of 20 per cent in the total amount of the tax revenue. Inasmuch as the current tax increase, while aiming at the increase of the tax revenue, is on the other hand also counted to contribute toward the absorption of the purchasing power, it is only natural to impose additional levies on the income tax which has been the chief tax item. And it is probably owing to the fact that a further increase of the rate of the composite income tax beyond the present level is almost impossible that an increase of the classified income tax has been decided upon.

It goes without saying that those who pay the composite income tax are the mainstay of society. And because their income constitutes an important source of capital for the production increase, it would by no means be a wise policy to enforce an unreasonable tax increase too nominally and thus to block that source. The authorities have given due attention to this point and, from a broad viewpoint, have abandoned mere formal measures and aimed at real effects. Thus, as a step to cope with wartime requirements, the measure will find no opposition among intelligent people.

Next regarding the taxes imposed on juridical persons, a raise in the rate for the extraordinary profit tax has been avoided, and instead it has been decided to raise the rate of the income tax of juridical persons by 3 per cent. There are also people who advocate that, in view of the situation, it would have been possible further to increase the rate for profits beyond a certain amount, and that the tax should be levied on extraordinary profits. It cannot be denied, however, that there is a danger of exposing the foundation of a company to risks if it is to continue its sound business with too great a burden imposed on its extraordinary profits. And this is the more so in the case of companies of superior efficiency which make efforts for the production increase by effecting a rationalization of the company's business.

Besides, broad increases in transit, liquor, admission and other taxes have been decided upon. And no one will find easily a reason to oppose those increases. Moreover, concerning the income from share liquidation transactions, the imposition of composite tax has been abolished, and taxation at the source has taken its place. Also the imposition of composite tax on certain kinds of dividends has been abolished. These constitute revisions of irrational points in present taxation system. In short, the current tax increase bill is based on a broad outlook on the situation and is in accordance with realities.

CONTROLLED BY AMERICANS

Many Yanks on Staff of Chiang's New Transport Bureau

Domei

LISBON, January 4.—The newly organized Chungking Wartime Transportation Bureau will be run under the control of the United States, and the first aim of the new Bureau is to open the Ledo Road, according to a UP report from Chungking.

At a press interview yesterday, Yu Fei-peng, director of the Wartime Transportation Bureau, said that the India-China road would be used only for military purposes, the report also said. Therefore, the opening of the road will not benefit the people who had been looking forward to the supply of clothing materials and other necessities with the opening of the road as they are now suffering miserably from a lack of all daily necessities.

According to Director Yu, the WTB will have on its staff many American engineers to undertake the technical side of the Bureau's works, and when the road is opened, Americans will also play the main roles in guiding and supervising transportation.

In the administrative affairs of the Bureau also, Americans are to participate. Major General Robert McClure, Deputy Chief of Staff in China, has been appointed assistant director of the WTB. Thus it is quite plain that even the transportation activity of Chungking is now under the control of the United States.

BURMA'S RESOLVE VOICED

Will Deal Irretrievable Blows on Enemy, Thakin Mya Avers

Domei

RANGOON, January 4.—Thakin Mya Vice-Prime Minister of Burma, expressed the firm determination of the Burmese to inflict irretrievable blows on the enemy in the fourth year of the War of Greater East Asia, in the course of the exchange broadcast with the Prime Ministers of other nations of Greater East Asia at 7.20 p.m. today.

Vice-Prime Minister Thakin Mya's radio speech in part follows:

"The Anglo-American offensive has now extended to the Pacific and the Burmese border, and most devastating battles will be unfolded this year. The unparalleled fighting spirit manifested by the Japanese Army and Navy Special Attack Corps constitutes a far more important element leading to final victory than the enemy's material superiority. Upon greeting the fourth year of the War of Greater East Asia we, the Burmese, are unflinchingly resolved to inflict irretrievable blows on the enemy forces."

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SIGNIFICANCE OF INCREASE IN TAXES IS EMPHASIZE

Will Stabilize Finances; People Have Great Surplus Power To Bear Taxation

The people of Japan have a great surplus strength to bear taxation, compared with the peoples of other belligerent nations, said Masanori Katsu, Member of the House of Representatives and former Commerce and Industry Minister in the Yonai Cabinet, in reviewing the Government's new taxation increase plan, according to the Asahi.

"The war expenditure of Japan since the beginning of the China Affair to the end of 1944 has reached ¥138,300,000,000, and as things stand at present the proposed tax increase is really unavoidable," he said. "There have been various opinions as regard the present taxation increase. Even if the increase could be avoided now a fairly large increase would have to be effected later on so it is better and easier for the people to have taxes gradually increased than to suffer a sudden shock of abrupt increases. The taxation increase now proposed has a great significance as it will stabilize the national finance and absorb floating purchasing power.

"The floating purchase power that is gradually increasing today naturally invites the rise of commodity prices, and also creates black-market prices which are said to be the seed of evil inflation.

"The proposed taxation increase touches only the classified income tax among direct taxes, and not the composite income tax. A notable increase will be made in the sake, entertainment, transportation, and other taxes, and this is expected to be fairly effective in absorbing the floating purchasing power.

"But, compared with other belligerent Powers, the people of Japan still possess surplus strength to bear taxation. The tax burden percentage of important belligerent nations of the World in 1943 shows that in Germany it was 33.8 per cent of the total national income, in the United States 35.6 per cent, and in Britain 37.7 per cent, while it was in Japan only 19.8 per cent, or one-half of the British rate.

"It is now the time for the people of Japan to reveal their real strength in bearing tax burden."

Obituary

Lieutenant General Yozo Honjo, 68, retired, died of stricture of the heart at his home in Shibuya at 9 a.m. on Friday. He was placed on the retired list in 1941.

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TOKYO, SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 1945

American Support of the London Polish Regime

Following its proclamation as the Provisional Government of Poland by the Soviet-sponsored Polish Committee for National Liberation at Lublin on December 31, 1944, the United States Secretary of State Edward Stettinius on January 1 of this year declared that the United States will continue to recognize the Polish government in exile at London. Furthermore, a Reuter's dispatch also reported that it was learned authoritatively that the assumption of the title of Provisional Government by the Polish Committee for National Liberation does not create any change in the attitude of the British Government toward the Polish regime at London.

This latest declaration of Secretary of State Stettinius on the Soviet-Polish border issue is definitely an American challenge to the Soviet Union and a clear-cut indication that the United States does not approve the Soviet Union's unilateral action in setting up the Provisional Government of Poland. It is also an indication that the Polish issue has by no means been settled in favor of the Soviet Union, although Prime Minister Winston Churchill's speech in the House of Commons on December 15 of last year seemed to lend the impression that Britain had finally given way to the demands of Moscow on the Polish boundary question.

This statement of the United States to continue to recognize the emigre Polish regime at London is particularly significant in another respect. The position of the United States toward territorial changes, like that of Britain until her position was modified by Prime Minister Churchill in his speech on December 15, is that the settlement of frontier questions should be left till after the war. Secretary of State Stettinius' announcement on December 18 that "the United States has no objections to any agreement on future frontiers if the United Nations concerned agreed upon them" did not in any way represent a change in this avowedly fundamental position of the United States nor was it an indication that the United States was following Britain's lead in submitting to the Kremlin authorities. This announcement of December 18 was a veiled warning to the Soviet Union as well as to Britain that the United States can not approve of any agreement on the Soviet-Polish border question which does not take into consideration the wishes of the Polish government in exile at London, while the latest announcement of January 1 was an open intimation to Britain that she can bank on American support in her struggle to re-establish her puppet regime in Poland.

The strong position which the United States is taking toward the Soviet-Polish border issue should occasion no surprise. It was clear as far back as September of last year that the United States would not recognize the Soviet demand for a "friendly" Poland. The appointment of Arthur Bliss Lane as American Ambassador to the Polish government in exile at London in the latter part of that month, some time after the inauguration at Moscow of the Soviet-backed Polish Committee for National Liberation, was an unequivocal demonstration of the United States' intention to lend her power and influence on the side of the much abused Polish emigre regime.

Clearly the opposition of the United States toward the Soviet Union portends an inevitable clash in the future among the Big Three, not only in Poland but also elsewhere in Europe. The fact that the United States, acting in concert with Britain, had recently lodged a severe protest against the Soviet Union for removing the Rumanian oil equipment would seem to indicate that the seeds of Anglo-American-Soviet discord have also been sown in the Balkans. Thus it is becoming more apparent than ever that the alliance of the Big Three in the present war is a transient alliance of inevitable enemies and that their irreconcilable ambitions will prevent the establishment of a permanent peace in the future.

America's Bitter New Year's Presents

That 1945 would be a bad depressing year to the American people was presaged by many factors, among the latest being the German winter offensive on the Western Front which has already exacted a heavy toll from the American armies. The Americans had believed such a military operation impossible for the Germans and hence its occurrence caused the Americans to experience one of the gloomiest holiday seasons in their lives. But an even more depressing news has struck them. It is the order by War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes on January 3 directing the Selective Service System to take steps for immediate induction into the armed forces of all men from 18 to 25 who have hitherto enjoyed deferment on account of agricultural work.

The agricultural deferment group contains 364,000 men and represents the largest remaining single source of young men in the United States. The significant thing, of course, in connection with Byrnes' order is that it is an outright confession of the very serious manpower shortage situation in the United States. Byrnes himself admits it in his instruction to Major General Lewis B. Hershey when he ascribes his action to "representations made to him by the Army and Navy that they must have men." The manpower shortage must be serious indeed when the United States has to dig into the lists of men who originally had been assigned to agricultural work as their part in the war effort.

The manpower shortage in the United States assumes alarming proportions when no less an authority than Hanson Baldwin, famed military critic of the New York Times, predicts American battle casualties may well average from 100,000 to 125,000 monthly in the first few months of 1945. This figure in itself is conservative, because Baldwin's computation is based on comparatively low estimates in the Pacific theater of the war. That the American casualties are actually high in this theater, particularly in the current intense fighting in the Philippines, requires no argument. Thus, it is seen that even if the 364,000 men who now hold agricultural deferments should be completely put into uniform, President Roosevelt would still have to call into service occupationally deferred men in the higher age groups.

As the Americans greet the New Year, Byrnes' jolting order is not the only indication of the severe shortage of manpower in the United States. An official spokesman in Chicago said on January 3 that the war industries in that city faced a shortage of 55,000 workers. And to emphasize the seriousness of this situation, he pointed out that 20,000 of these needed workers were lacking in plants producing the most vital war needs. On top of this not too encouraging situation, political observers in Washington significantly have been predicting that the first big problem the new 79th Congress will have to tackle will be manpower.

Long has President Roosevelt boasted of America as the "arsenal of democracy." The United States has produced gigantic amounts of planes and other armaments, to be sure. But can the United States continue to be the "arsenal" of her allies in manpower? That is America's weakest point which in the long run will cause her defeat.

ANGLO-U.S. LITERATURE

Literary Works Show No Appreciation of War Aims

II

It is generally assumed that Britain won World War I by propaganda warfare and that the achievements of Lord Northcliffe are given just as much credit for this as Prime Minister Lloyd George. H. G. Wells, too, supported Northcliffe but the fact that today Britain's avowed war motive cannot convince this veteran writer is ably revealed by this book.

Although the cat was let out of the bag later during World War I, all British thinkers stood for the highly touted slogan that the war was being waged to make democracy safe in this world. But today the Atlantic Charter has no charm whatsoever and even Wells is scornful of this dubious document.

Perhaps the most comical episode of all is the convention of the Tagore Association of London which, on the fourth anniversary of the death of the famous Indian poet, announced its plan to publish an anthology of Tagore's works. The convention adopted the following resolution: "We deem it necessary that the East and the West should meet each other half way and we hope that the human race will march peacefully toward the highest ideal of harmony and mutual cooperation." At this late hour we cannot expect any benefit from these devils' prayers, but judging from the loud clanging of the bells we are at a loss to conclude whether they are serious about the matter.

What Britain wants now is neither the close harmony of the Eastern and the Western culture nor Tagore himself, but eternally to bleed and exploit India. Britain's selfish ambitions cannot be covered by any subterfuge and this anthology of Tagore's works which was published this summer did not stir the literary circles at all and it is more than unlikely that the scheme will be realized.

Although America seems to be flooded with all kinds of war stories, in Britain this does not seem to be the case. This is surprising indeed considering the flood of war stories which literally inundated Britain during World War I, bringing in its wake the new term "War Literature." But this time the constant bombing apparently gave Britons no leisure time to produce or read such wartime literature. On the other hand, the fact that Japan and America produced so many outstanding war literature is due perhaps to the fact that their front lines are far away from their respective homeland, thus allowing them more leisure time.

Thus, we may draw the following conclusion: that nobody pays any attention to the Atlantic Charter and therefore even if Anglo-American leaders tried to mobilize the writers for propaganda purposes the people will not believe them.

America's high sounding slogan of saving the small nations from the tyranny of Nazism and Fascism might be subscribed to by minor European nations, but in the Pacific regions, her slogans fall on deaf ears. Here in the Orient, the lofty ideal of Japan's Greater East Asia Prosperity Sphere of justice and righteousness has become the faith of one billion people.

Accordingly, Japan rather has the upper hand in the propaganda warfare against the enemy today. Credit should be given not so much to the technique of publicity as to the high and humanitarian ideal for which she is now fighting. To create a literary masterpiece with this ideal as the foundation is the mission of the contemporary writers of Japan.

(End)

Blackout

It was in the blackout and through the darkness the warden plodded on his rounds. Stumbling against buildings and up and down curbs, he suddenly realized he was lost.

But ah! In the house across the road a bright light shone from an upstairs window.

"One of your bedroom lights is showing," he said, summoning up his sternest voice. "Please put it out at once."

He was interrupted by a voice that he knew only too well. "Come in and put it out yourself, idiot! You left it on."

Dead Men Tell No Tales

A quack was holding forth in the market place of a country town enlarging on the virtues of some pills of his own concoction.

"I have sold these pills throughout the country for 25 years and never heard a word of complaint," he declared. "Now, what does it prove?"

Swiftly came a voice in the crowd: "That dead men tell no tales.

A Clever Child

"James," said the teacher, "do we eat the flesh of the whale?"

"Yes, sir," said James.

"And what do we do with the bones?"

"We leave them on the side of the plate, sir."

THE FATE OF CHUNGKING

United States Has Been Making Deep Inroads Into Chungking's Political and Economic Fields

By MASATO WATASE

The American policy toward the Chungking regime is not aid-to-Chungking but it aimed at getting control of Chungking. Particularly have recent events proved quite nakedly the design of the United States to put strong pressure on Chungking, although on the surface she has claimed that she is collaborating with Chungking in the prosecution of the common war against Japan.

Indeed, it has become clear more than ever that Japan's enemy is not the Chungking army but the American forces which are stationed in Chungking-controlled territory. For not only is the American air corps in China taking direct part in the war against Japan, but it appears that the strategy on the Chinese mainland is being mainly determined by the United States. The Chungking forces in Yunnan Province which have been trained and equipped by the United States may be said to be a part of the American forces. Moreover, in the political field, it was revealed rather clearly at the People's Council in Chungking which was held from the early part of September till the middle of that month that the Chungking regime was making an effort to meet with the various demands of the United States.

At this political conference, many pending political problems were taken up for discussion. But of all these subjects the most important was the one dealing with the adjustment of relations between the Chungking and Yenan regimes. Another subject of equal importance was the one calling for the establishment of a constitutional form of government in Chungking. The solution of both of these problems is apparently being demanded by the United States. The promise to submit the budget to the People's Council as well as the expansion of its right of investigation were apparently made by Chiang Kai-shek as a gesture toward the United States which has been criticizing his regime as one based on dictatorship. Thus, in the political and economic fields the United States has been making deep inroads into Chungking and while it is true that there are anti-American elements within the Chungking regime, it cannot be denied that Chungking is gradually weakening before the invasion of the United States.

U.S. Imperialism in China

In the past, the American policy toward China was based on the open door policy and equal opportunity. The object of this policy, of course, was to give the United States an opportunity to cash in on the profits in China and at the same time was designed to restrain the advanced imperialistic nations such as Britain, France, Holland and Portugal which had already won luscious concessions and rights in China. Japan too was caught in the snare of this policy and subjected to unpleasant experiences.

Thus did the United States shrewdly increase her influence in China, and, with the first World War she began a positive move to strengthen her power on the Chinese mainland. This is reflected in the fact that a few years before the outbreak of the China Affair, the United States was the best customer of China's exports. Of course, the most cunning and astute imperialist of China was Britain and what the United States did was to lend a hand in Britain's imperialistic venture. For instance, at the time of the outbreak of the China Affair, the country which was most open in its hostility toward Japan was Britain, the United States merely satisfying herself by playing second fiddle.

The American policy toward China, however, became more naked and open with the arrival of Lauchlin Currie to Chungking in February 1941. But even before this, to be exact, the United States had taken a positive interest in the affairs of East Asia. That is, it was the primary aim of the United States after the outbreak of the war in Europe in 1939 to link the China front with the war in Europe. Then in the following year with the conclusion of the Tripartite Alliance among Japan, Germany and Italy, the American attitude toward the Axis became very brusque, and in East Asia the United States started to do everything to oppose Japan and at the same time to aid the Chungking regime.

Currie, it will be recalled, was known as an authority in the field of international economics. It was stated that the object of his trip to Chungking was to make a general study of the economic and general conditions in Chungking and make a detailed report on them to President Franklin Roosevelt, but during the course of his interview at Hongkong on his way back to the United States he let the cat out of the bag. It became clear that United States planned to form a military alliance among Chungking, the United States and Britain and that the terms of this alliance were: (1) the extension of American financial and technical aid toward the development of the Chinese hinterland; (2) the accelerated supply of aircraft and guns to the Chungking regime; (3) the furnishing by the Chungking regime of bases for American aircraft, and (4) the granting of preferential rights to the United States in the purchase of tin, tungsten, antimony, pawlonia oil, etc. Previous to this it will be remembered that the United States had extended loans to the Chungking regime beginning with December, 1938, thus making clear beyond any doubt the nature of the American ambition in China. And it was not long thereafter that the American Government passed the Lend-Lease Act.

Assistance Becomes Positive

Following the return of Currie to the United States, the extension of American assistance to the Chungking regime became more positive in character. For instance, in April, 1941 there were established the Fapi Stabilization Fund and the Fapi Stabilization Committee; in May, Brigadier General Magruder, chief of the American air force in the Philippines, left for Singapore to take part in the Anglo-American-Chungking military conference and after the termination of the conference he also paid a visit to the Chungking regime; in July, Owen Lattimore was appointed political adviser to Chiang Kai-shek; and again in October, Brigadier-General went to Chungking as military adviser to the Chungking regime. In other words, through these individuals the United States carried out in practice her economic, political and military aid to the Chungking regime.

Such was the condition which prevailed before the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia. Then with the outbreak of the Pacific war, the United States flattered Chiang by appointing him the Commander-in-Chief of the anti-Axis forces in the China area. Then in March, 1942, Lieutenant General Joseph Stilwell went to Chungking as chief-of-staff, followed in July by Lauchlin Currie, and in September by Wendell Willkie. Then in May of this year, Vice-President Henry A. Wallace was sent to the Chungking regime and in September Donald Nelson and Major General Patrick Hurley.

Such are the major American personalities who have visited Chungking in the past. On the other hand, Chungking also sent to the United States T. V. Soong, Madame Chiang Kai-shek, Hsing Shi-hui and H. H. Kung. At the present time, has also left for Washington.

A significant fact about these developments was that the voice of Britain in the affairs of Chungking was replaced by that of the United States. This is perhaps natural in view of the fact that Britain had become so exhausted by the war that she has had to rely on the and of the United States. Moreover, it was perhaps inevitable that there should arise some speculation that the United States might eventually inherit the fortunes of the British Empire which are throughout the world.

Since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia the attitude of the United States toward Chungking has been that of bluff and intimidation. However, since the Cairo Conference in November of last year the United States had made plain her intention to control the Chungking regime. Before the Cairo Conference, the position of the United States in the global war was to give priority to the European war. But at Cairo it appears that an agreement was reached for a general offensive against Japan. In other words, this conference indicated America's confidence in carrying on the war on two fronts at the same time.

Tries to Control Chungking

Before the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia the United States placed great anticipation on the military capacity of the Chungking regime in view of its dogged resistance against the Japanese Army. But at the present time this anticipation has been betrayed by the fact that Chungking has been suffering one defeat after another. It appears therefore that the United States has come to the conclusion that she herself must take over the fighting on the Chinese mainland and, for this reason, is not hesitating to get control of the Chungking regime.

The sphere in which the United States has most brazenly indicated her intention of acquiring control over the Chungking regime has been in the military field. As was mentioned before, the Chinese mainland has become the battleground of the Japanese-American forces. At the present time, the United States has in China the American Fourteenth Air Force, the Twentieth Bomber Command under the control of General Arnold and 30,000 ground troops. Other than these, there are the American-trained and equipped Chungking troops, the mixed American-Chungking air corps and the force of General Wei Yi-huang in Yunnan which may be said to be under the supervision of the United States. Moreover, the United States, besides equipping some Chungking troops with American arms, is also laying down plans for military strategy. To carry out such a scheme, the United States has sent military instructors to Chungking to teach such military courses as infantry, artillery, engineering, communications, surgery and veterinary science. Among the 72 Chungking officers taking these courses, 13 are of the rank of general. The American officers who have been entrusted with the work of instructing the Chungking officers have formed an organization in Kumming, which is called the Young Staff. Thus is the Chungking army being transformed along the American pattern. It is said that the resignation of General Chen Cheng as commander-in-chief of the Yunnan forces, in autumn last year was made as a protest against the policies being carried out by Stilwell.

Another form of American assistance to the Chungking regime has been the extension of loans. In December 1938, the United States gave Chungking a loan of $25,000,000, $12,800,000 in March 1939, and three loans in 1940 to the total of $95,000,000. Then in 1941, she offered a loan of $50,000,000 and again in March 1942 right after the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, another $500,000,000. The general purpose of these loans was to assist Chungking in the purchase of commodities as well as to help in the development of the hinterland industries but the $50,000,000 loan of 1941 was for the purpose of stabilizing the value of the fapi which was taking a headlong fall while a part of the loan of $500,000,000 was for use as a fund in underwriting Chungking debentures. However, despite these financial assistances, the financial structure of Chungking failed to stand up and the value of the fapi continued its furious downward plunge. Then the action of the American army authorities and other officials in buying up the materials in the hinterland brought about a further rise in the prices. At the present time the official exchange rate of the fapi and the American dollar is at the rate of one dollar for 20 Chungking dollars but the black market rate is one dollar for 250 Chungking dollars.

Obtains Right to Develop Resources

Furthermore in May, 1941 the United States dispatched John Baker to Chungking. His arrival marked the establishment of the Burma Road Control Committee. At the same time $10,000,000 worth of bonds were issued in the United States to pay for the construction of the Burma Road and from May to August of that year dispatched technical experts to Southwest China to develop the transportation facilities of Chungking. Incidentally, in connection with the construction of the Burma Road the United States obtained secretly the right to develop the underground minerals found along the road. The dispatch of Currie to Chungking for the second time in July 1942 was also attended by vigorous measures on the part of the American Government to develop Chungking's communication facilities and to develop the underground natural resources. That is, the agreement which was reported to have been reached provided that: (1) the United States shall send 500 to 1,000 technical experts for the construction of roads as well as for the development of the mining industries in the hinterland; (2) as compensation, Chungking shall give 50 per cent of the minerals mined to the United States; (3) the trade between Chungking and America during the course of the present war shall be conducted on a barter basis. However, with the bottling up of southwest China by the Japanese Forces in the fall of 1942 the Chungking regime was forced to transfer its attention to the Northwest District. And this was also true of the United States.

Thus, when Willkie went to Chungking he passed over the Northwest Route. So did Wallace when he made his trip to the Chungking capital. The trips of these individuals thus reveal that the United States is not only interested in the political solution of the Chungking-Yenan fracas. It would seem that the United States has also an economic interest in the Northwest District. In this sense, therefore, it is of importance to pay close attention to the reports made by Wallace and Nelson to Roosevelt. For instance, Wallace on his return to the United States after his visit to Chungking made the following significant statement in his radio speech of July 9. Said Wallace in gist: "It is my conviction that a new era is dawning in the new world that connects the northern Pacific and Eastern Asia, a world that will open up new enterprises, new investments, new trade and new accomplishments." In this statement indeed is clearly revealed the ambition of the United States. It reveals her intention to force her own selfish plans on the people of Asia.

Also significant is the statement of Donald Nelson which appeared in the July 29 number of the Business Week. Said Nelson: "American assistance to Chungking is not of a temporary nature. In the near future the Chungking regime may announce its plan for the development of its industries on a long-range plan through the direct assistance of the United States." What could, indeed, be a more stark revelation of the nature of Nelson's mission to the Chungking regime.

ROLE OF CHOSEN AND TAIWAN

Both Regions Assume New Importance in Present War As Sources of Foodstuffs, Raw Materials

(By A SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR)

I

The position of Chosen in this war is as a great commissary depot of Greater East Asia from the fact that Chosen possesses vast natural resources. Not only is it self-supporting but it is also able to furnish the battle front with abundant supplies. In this respect, what Prime Minister General Kuniaki Koiso said at the time of his appointment as Governor-General of Chosen is significant.

"The mission of Chosen in this War of Greater East Asia lies in unremittingly providing the Japanese mainland and the battle front with ample supplies. That Chosen will accomplish this mission we are confident as Chosen has enormous potentialities."

Geographically speaking, Chosen is a direct link in the communication line connecting the Japanese mainland and the Continent. That is because its railroad which, running up and down through the Peninsula, hooks up with the continental railways forming the great trunk line of Greater East Asia.

Viewed militarily, the part Chosen played in the past was indeed tremendous. No sooner had the Manchurian Incident broken out than the late General Senjuro Hayashi, the then commander of the Japanese Forces in Chosen, ordered his army to rush northward for the purpose of assisting the Kwantung Army. Again, with the outbreak of the China Affair it was the Army in Chosen that was forthwith dispatched to the front, and which with the arrival of reinforcements from Japan was eventually reorganized into a complete fighting unit. Not only was the handling of these initial troop movements efficiently carried out on those two great occasions by means of the Chosen Railway but also it was instrumental in the quick transportation of those great armies that were continuously sent over from the Japanese mainland, the service having been pushed uninterruptedly day and night.

Reason for Accomplishment

However, the main cause of this great accomplishment, this large scale commissary and troop transportation, did not arise just because the transportation facilities were in good shape but because it was made possible through the coordination of administration, industry, finance and culture that had been built up in Chosen during the past three decades.

These two military events definitely made Chosen an important military base to be used in connection with our armies' advance to the Continent. Furthermore, in the reconstruction of Manchoukuo and China its importance was assured as a relay base between the Japanese mainland and the Continent. By referring to Chosen as a relay base, however, one is apt to consider Chosen merely as a link in a chair but with the coming of the War of Greater East Asia the importance of Chosen's role has been greatly enhanced. In fact, with America's counteroffensive aimed at the interruption of our shipping route with the Southern Regions, thus aggravating the war situation, the position of Chosen has taken on greater importance. The role of Chosen Railway in the future will be to strengthen our war front by directly connecting the Japanese mainland with the economic resources of the Continent. It goes without saying that a decisive war situation demands a decisive strengthening of the war front. Speed is essential in this field. And to meet this requirement Chosen is ideally situated; it is geographically so close to the Japanese mainland that it can solve the problem very handily.

To fill this order, it is only necessary to have enough bottoms to connect Chosen with our mainland. Any other reserve shipping space may be put to direct war operations, including the transportation of essential war materials from the south.

Food Supply Base

Chosen must also be regarded as a food supplying region. In this respect, if we go into the data on Chosen food production, especially rice, we can readily understand the situation. The following is the rice statistics of Chosen from 1937 to 1942 inclusive: 1937—26,797,000 koku; 1938—24,139,000 koku; 1939—14,356,000 koku; 1940—21,527,000 koku; 1941—24,886,000 koku; and 1942—15,688,000 koku.

Throughout this period Chosen has been supplying the Japanese mainland with 6,000,000 to 70,000,000 koku of rice every year, with the exception of 1939 when it has a big shortage on account of the dry season.

At present, Chosen is carrying out a large-scale rice production increase plan, which was started in 1940. This plan was revised in 1942 to such a scale that by 1935 it will have an annual increase of 11,383,000 koku, or a total rice crop of 34,636,000 koku. If this large-scale production is realized, then Japan will receive from Chosen 8,000,000 to 9,000,000 koku of rice yearly. Then Japan will not have to rely upon rice imports from the southern countries of Thailand, French Indo-China, and Burma. The shipping space so saved can be transferred to the importation of other important materials.

Underground Resources

Chosen has a great variety of mineral resources. Of those, tungsten from Chosen accounts for 82 per cent of our requirements although tungsten could be easily obtained from Burma and southern China. There are also unlimited mineral deposits in Chosen of iron, coal, graphite, tungsten, fluor-spar, mica, liquid lead, alum, nickel, phosphate, cobalt and manganese. Besides, there are rare metals which have been discovered from time to time, including those precious ores which contain selium and thorium.

Chosen also prides itself in having the second greatest dam in the world on the Yalu River and consequently it is able to supply electricity at a very moderate charge. In fact, Chosen has more than enough electricity.

Moreover, Chosen has enormous manpower. It is said that 60 per cent of the coal mine workers in Japan are Chosenese. Not a few Chosenese are also now actually engaged in the construction work with the Japanese Forces on the southern battle front. According to our national labor mobilization program Chosenese labor occupies a very important place from the point of abundant supply. There is still much labor found in the rural community in Chosen. The Chosenese are also quite efficient workers. This comes from the fact that their living conditions and customs and habits are similar to those of the Japanese and also from the fact that they speak Japanese quite fluently.

Taiwan—Its Importance

Taiwan was reorganized as a regular fighting zone under the ordinances issued on August 5 of last year. It was only natural that it should be called a battle ground as it occupies such an important place. Under the ordinances, all the men and material in Taiwan were put in such a state of affairs that they could cope with any situation that might develop. It was this powerful set-up that enabled the Taiwanese, the military, government officials, and the people, to fight so valiantly the other day when the enemy attempted to attack the island.

Taiwan at the start of the current war acted chiefly as a supplier of manpower. This was made possible from the fact that for the last fifty years Taiwan was built up under efficient administration.

As a result, the Taiwanese went with the Japanese Forces into the Southern Regions. They participated in the enterprise of planting Taiwan rice in Hainan Island and the Philippines after the land had been cleared; the cultivation of cotton in the Philippines, French Indo-China, Thailand, and New Guinea; and the raising of Taiwan hemp in the Philippines, French Indo-China and Java.

From the way the war situation developed it was only natural to see Taiwan fortify its fighting strength. This fortification was started with the mobilization of men and things for the purpose of building up a strong military defense. It was further aimed toward setting up an industrial structure compatible with the war situation. The following measures were also enforced: (1) thorough vigilance and preparedness against air raids; (2) reorganization of factories and materials on a war footing; (3) maintenance of an economic order with the view toward strengthening the self-supply of war materials; (4) organization of the whole populace into preparedness for war; and (5) the establishment of a wartime administration. Under (5) Governor General was authorized to delegate his power as much as possible to the local governors, so that the latter may carry on general administration with full responsibility.

(To Be Concluded)

Fruits of Wisdom

The most stormy ebullitions of passion, from blasphemy to murder, are less terrific than one single act of cool villainy; a still rabies is more dangerous than the paroxysms of a fever. Fear the boisterous savage of passion less than the sedately grinning villain.—Lavater.

* * *

Peoples who are arrogant on account of their wealth are about equal to the Laplanders, who measure a man's worth by the number of his reindeer.—Frederika Bremer.

* * *

Many are discontented with the name of idler, who are nevertheless content to do worse than nothing.—Zimmermann.

* * *

Perfect virtue is to do unwitnessed what we should be capable of doing before all the world.—Rochefoucauld.

* * *

If a man be endued with a generous mind, this is the best kind of nobility.—Plato.